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in: Creatures

Diomedes

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“And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him.”
— Revelation 6:8

The **Diomedes** are a genetically engineered breed of horse that the US Armed Forces developed just before the Great War. They were never deployed, and their genetic material and fetal samples lay frozen beneath the [Idaho National Laboratory](#) for centuries. They were only recently unearthed by a Tectonic-backed scavenging mission, and have since become an important part of the [Yellowstone Nations](#).

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Diomedes



Tectonic Lancer Upon a Diomedes Mare.

Statistics

Base Species Horse

Created via Cloning of Horses Using Fetal Tissue and DNA

Range Yellowstone Nations

Characteristics

Danger Level Moderate When Provoked

Tameness Domesticated



Physical Attributes

Diomedes are universally albino and typically stand fifteen hands high. They can gallop at 30 miles an hour while mounted, but some exceptional specimens are faster. They have overdeveloped adrenal glands that allow them to function even after receiving a grievous injury, although they will likely die once they have calmed.

Flesh-Eating Habits

Unlike other equines, the Diomedes are omnivorous and can consume meat. They do not hunt but will scavenge flesh when there are no plants available. A sustained diet of meat is abnormal and will make the animal highly aggressive and unsuitable for riding.

Breeding

Diomedes are very difficult to breed, and can usually only give birth to live young in captivity. A pregnant animal has need of high nutrition simply not available in the wasteland to bring its young to term. This makes breeding Diomedes an expensive but rewarding profession.

Health Problems

Diomedes are highly prone to health problems as they age. Skin conditions are common, and they must be well cared for to avoid them. In advanced age, their hearts are very likely to give out. Cancer is another common illness in Diomedes. They typically live no longer than fifteen years, with many dying far sooner.

Domestication and Human Interaction

Diomedes were created to serve as mounts for humans, and make for fine companions. They

tend to bond with their riders over time, and a longtime horseman can push a Diomedes to gallop until its heart bursts. They excel at their original design as warhorses. They can be easily trained to bite and kick enemies when in close quarters and remain calm around the scent of blood and the sound of bullets. Since their discovery, they have become an essential part of the Teton Lancers and Teton Dragoons, two military units within the area of the Yellowstone Nations.

Rediscovery

The Diomedes were rediscovered by a team of scavengers, mercenaries, soldiers, and scientists called the Glass Expedition. They were funded by the Protectorate who immediately took possession of the Diomedes and were eventually able to clone their first one using a Brahmin as a surrogate. It took years and a great commitment of resources to bring the herd to sustainable numbers, but the advantages the Diomedes gave the Protectorate were too great to ignore. Glass would embark on a second expedition to the Idaho National Laboratory and was never seen again.



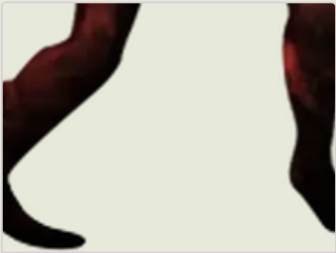
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